

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Letters Patent of:

Gary Dilling

Patent No.: 7,293,949

To the Attention of:
Michael Bangura

Issued: November 13, 2007

For: SPIRAL DRIVE FASTENER WITH FRICTION
ENGAGEABLE SURFACE

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF OVERPAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE AND WRITTEN
NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE IN STATUS FROM SMALL TO LARGE ENTITY

Mail Stop M Correspondence
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In Response to the Notice of Overpayment of Patent Maintenance Fee mailed December 2, 2010, Patentee hereby gives notice of change in status from small to large entity in relation to the above-referenced patent. Patentee requests that the USPTO apply the entire amount of the \$980 paid on November 30, 2010 towards the 3.5 year maintenance fee for the above-referenced patent. A copy of the Notice of Overpayment of Patent Maintenance Fee is attached to this Response.

Dated: December 17, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

Donald A. Gregory

Registration No.: 28,954

David T. Beck

Registration No.: 54,985

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

1825 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006-5403

(202) 420-2200

Attorneys for Applicant



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

HOT MAIL

p5630 0000/P050

DONALD A. GREGORY
 DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP
 1825 EYE STREET, NW
 WASHINGTON, DC 20006-5403

December 2, 2010

RECEIVED
 Dickstein Shapiro LLP

NOTICE OF OVERPAYMENT OF PATENT MAINTENANCE FEE

Docketed Net Required Confirmation
 Initials 1st Initials 2nd

REGARDING PATENT NUMBER: 7293949

Payment Amount Received: \$ 980.00

Payment Year: 3.5 (e.g., 3.5, 7.5, 11.5)

PAYMENT RECEIPT DATE (Mailroom Date Stamp): 11/30/2010 As Due: 11/30/2010

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) acknowledges receipt of your maintenance fee payment for the above-identified patent in the large entity amount. **USPTO records indicate that patentee is a small entity.** The payment of a large entity fee is not sufficient to change the status of a patent from small to large entity.

Absent a timely reply to this Notice the USPTO will:

- (1) apply the small entity maintenance fee payment amount to the patent; and
- (2) refund the overpayment amount.

If patentee is entitled to small entity status, NO reply to this Notice is necessary.

If this box is marked, the application number was not identified or did not correspond to the above cited patent number.

Reply by Large Entity Patentee

If patentee is a large entity, a written notification of change in status from small to large entity **must be filed and signed by all of the inventors, a registered attorney or agent, or the assignee(s) of the entire interest** (37 CFR 1.27(g)(2)). If such a written notification was previously filed, then a copy of the written notification along with evidence of receipt in the USPTO (e.g., postcard receipt) may be submitted instead. A written notification must be filed within the time period for reply specified below to prevent a refund of the "overpayment amount" and possible patent expiration. See MPEP 2531.

If this box is marked, your payment was not sufficient and additional money is required to accompany the reply to this Notice. Contact the individual who has signed below for the current amount that is due.

Time Period for Reply by Large Entity Patentee

If the amount of your payment was sufficient, the reply to this Notice must be filed within **ONE MONTH** from the date of this Notice. No extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b) are available.

If the amount of your payment was not sufficient, the reply to this Notice must be filed within the **earlier of**: (1) any time period remaining for payment of the maintenance fee including the grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e); or (2) **ONE MONTH** from the date of this Notice. In addition, if the reply is filed during the grace period specified under 37 CFR 1.362(e), but the surcharge has not been paid, payment of the surcharge is also required. No extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b) are available.

The reply to this Notice may be sent by facsimile to the Office of Finance, Maintenance Fee Branch at (571) 273-6500, or by mail to: Mail Stop M Correspondence, Director of the USPTO, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

The reply should be sent to the attention of the individual who has signed below. A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, contact the Office of Finance, Maintenance Fee Branch at (571) 272-6500. Please ask for the individual who has signed below.

Michael Bangura (571) 272-6365

Printed Name of USPTO Representative

Signature of USPTO Representative

NOTE: All USPTO fees (including patent maintenance fees) are subject to change. If you are making a maintenance fee payment, visit the www.uspto.gov website or contact the Office of Finance to verify your payment amount. A reply to this Notice can be timely made using the certificate of mailing or transmission procedure set forth in 37 CFR 1.8.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

MAINTENANCE FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM
(Do not submit this form electronically via EFS-Web)

Address to:
 Director of the United States
 Patent and Trademark Office
 Attn: Maintenance Fee
 2051 Jamieson Avenue, Suite 300
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 - OR -
 Fax to: 571-273-6500

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Attn: Maintenance Fee, 2051 Jamieson Avenue, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314" on _____
 Signature _____
 Typed or printed name _____

Enclosed herewith is the payment of the maintenance fee(s) for the listed patent(s).

1. A check for the amount of \$ _____ for the full payment of the maintenance fee(s) and any necessary surcharge is enclosed.
2. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is enclosed.
3. The Director is hereby authorized to charge \$ _____ to cover the payment of the fee(s) indicated below to Deposit Account No. 04-1073.
4. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the payment of the required fee(s) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1073.

*Information required by 37 CFR 1.366(c) (columns 1 & 2). Information requested under 37 CFR 1.366(d) (columns 3, 4 & 5)

Item	Patent Number* Column 1	U.S. Application Number* [e.g., 06/555,555] Column 2	Maintenance Fee Amount (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g)) Column 3	Surcharge Amount (37 CFR 1.20(h)) Column 4	Payment Year (select one below) Column 5		
					3.5 yrs	7.5 yrs	11.5 yrs
1	7,293,949	10/825,633	980.00		2011		
2					12/32/2010 MBANGURA 060000138	7293949	
3					01 FC:2551		490.00
4							
5							
Subtotals: Columns 3 & 4			980.00	0.00			
Total Payment				980.00			

additional sheets attached for listing additional patents.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on Form PTO-2038.

Respectfully submitted,**

Customer's Signature: 

Matter: P5630.0000/P050

Customer's Name: Donald A. Gregory
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

Registration Number, if applicable: 28,954

Telephone: (202) 420-2274

Fax: (202) 420-2201

Note: All correspondence will be forwarded to the "Fee Address" or to the "Correspondence Address" if no "Fee Address" has been provided.
 See 37 CFR 1.363.

Payment of small entity fee is appropriate if small entity status still exists, see 37 CFR 1.27(g). To establish small entity status or to change status from small to large entity, a written assertion is required. See 37 CFR 1.27 and 1.33(b).

**WHERE MAINTENANCE FEE PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE BY AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT, BOTH THE NAME AND SIGNATURE OF AN AUTHORIZED USER ARE REQUIRED.

will call